

**Andrew Jackson to John Henry Eaton, August 3, 1830,
from Correspondence of Andrew Jackson. Edited by
John Spencer Bassett.**

TO SECRETARY EATON.

Hermitage, August 3, 1830.

Private and for your own eye.

My Dear Major, I send my son to meet you at Judge Overtons, and to conduct you and your lady with our other friends to the Hermitage where you will receive that heartfelt welcome that you were ever wont to do, when my Dr departed wife was living—her absence makes every thing here wear to me a gloomy and melancholy aspect, but the presence of her old and sincere friend will cheer me amidst the melancholy gloom with which I am surrounded.

My neighbours and connections will receive you and your Lady with that good feeling that is due to you, and I request you and your Lady will meet them with your usual courtesy, which is so well calculated to gain universal applause even from enemies, and the united approbation of all friends. Our enemies calculate much upon injuring me, by raising the cry, that I had forced Mr A. J. Donelson from me, and compelled him to retire, because he would not yield to my views, which they call improper—I mean to be able to shew that I only claimed to rule my Household, that it should extend justice and common politeness to all and no more, and thus put my enemies in the wrong, and if any friends desert me that it is theirs, not my fault.

Genl Coffee has, since here, produced a visable, and sensible change in my connections, and they will all be here to receive you and your Lady, who I trust will meet them with

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her usual courtesy and if a perfect reconciliation cannot take place, that harmony may prevail, and a link broken in the Nashville conspiracy. I trust you are aware that I will never abandon you or seperate from you, so long as you continue to practise those virtues that have always accompanied you, nor would I ask you, or any friend to pursue a course to compromit or be degrading to themselves, or feelings, but I am anxious that we pursue such a course as will break down the Nashville combination, which I view as the sprouts of the Washington conspiracy. This effected, and we have a peaceful administration, and when we have waded thro' our official Labours, a calm retirement. I wish us also to heap coals upon the heads of our enemies, by returning good for evil. When I see, I have much to say to you. I have recd. letters from major Haley and Peachlynn and a string of resolutions from the citizens of mississippi all of which will be presented to you when here with my compliments to your Lady, B. and his, I am in haste yr friend